

**MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION**  
**OF THE MEETING OF JMSB FACULTY COUNCIL**

Held on Friday, February 18, 2010  
MB 15.254

**PRESENT**

S. Sharma, Dean and Chair; A. Baptista; B. Barbieri; S. Betton; H. Bhabra; E. Boulianne; M. Carney (for S. Brutus); A. Carr; A. Fagnoli; K. Gheyara; D. Graham; A. Hochstein; J. Jones-Doyle; G. Kanaan; L. Katsanis; H. Kim; S. Laurin; M. Le Guen; J. Longo; F. Lowy; M. Luciano; F. Nebebe; R. Paquin; D. Peltier-Rivest; M. Robitaille; R. Saade; M. Sharma; H. Simpkins; P. Verret; J. Wise

**ABSENT**

A. Ahmad; J. Ahmad; G. Beasley; S. Brutus; S. Carliner; B. Desai; E. Ferrara; G. Fisher; J. Freed; S. Goyal; M. Islam; R. Jhunjhunwala; D. Newton; R. Oppenheimer; B. Pearce; I. Rakita; C.A. Ross; M. Rossi; A. Waymann

**GUESTS**

H. Damlaj, J. Ens, J. Levinson, J. Redler, B. Tucker

1. **Call to order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:34 a.m.

2. **Open Meeting**

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

*R-2011-2-1 Upon motion duly moved and seconded (S. Betton, L. Katsanis), Council approved the Agenda as presented.*

4. **Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held January 28, 2011**

*R-2011-2-2 Upon motion duly moved and seconded (M. Sharma, J. Longo), Council approved the Minutes of the meeting held January 28, 2011.*

5. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

A. Hochstein mentioned that, further to his query at the last meeting regarding the MBA Co-Op Program, he has made an appointment to meet with Mr. G. Hughes, Director, Co-Op Institute and will report back at the next meeting of Council.

6. 5 Days for the Homeless

Joshua Redler, Organizing Committee  
Hussein Damlaj, Organizing Committee

Faculty Council accepted speaking privileges for Mr. Redler and Mr. Damlaj.

Mr. Redler gave a brief history of 5 Days for the Homeless and mentioned that past guest sleepers have included Prof. M Sharma, Mona Senecal, Karim Boulos and Justin Trudeau.

Mr. Damlaj spoke about his experience as a team member in 5 Days for the Homeless and how this sensitized him to the homeless problem in Montreal.

This year's event will take place on March 13-18, 2011. Mr. Redler encouraged everyone to support this initiative by spreading the word in the community, spending the night with the team or donating money.

7. Chair's Report and Question Period

The Chair made the following remarks:

Dr. Graham will be attending Faculty Council at 10:30 to discuss the draft academic plan. He explained that Dr. Graham is seeking input from the community and reminded Council members that there is one more Open Session left to attend to discuss the plan on March 4, 2011 from 3-4:00 pm in H. 435. Dr. Lowy will also be attending to address Council today. He mentioned that the Agenda may have to be amended to accommodate this schedule.

Prof. Sharma asked about the status of the bricks that many individuals purchased for a wall in the MB. It was explained that Facilities Management has been looking into the different suppliers for the right price and quality. The hope is that the process will start by the spring or summer.

There was a question in terms of the reaction to date regarding the academic plan. It was explained that it has been presented as a draft plan. Prof. Carney, a member of the Committee, mentioned that many working groups took part in the making of the plan and more than 50 documents were used in the process. It is still in its draft stage and input is being sought at this point from the community in order to fine tune it.

Consent Agenda

- 8. Reports from the Associate Deans
- 9. Reports from Other University Bodies
- 10. Staff Report

*R-2011-2-3 Upon motion duly moved and seconded (S. Betton, L. Katsanis), Council approved the items on the Consent Agenda as outlined in Items 8-10 and detailed in JMSB-2011-02A-01.*

## Regular Agenda

### 11. Proposed Curriculum Changes, Undergraduate Programs: COMM-22 (JMSB-2011-02A-02)

Associate Dean Peltier-Rivest presented the curriculum changes to Faculty Council. He explained that the changes consisted of revisions to the course requirements for the Major, Minor in International Business as well as the prerequisites for IBUS 462.

Prof. Barbieri asked how the courses in “Group B” were determined. It was explained that the revision of the non-business courses were selected after much discussion in terms of the trends in what students have requested. As well, Associate Dean Kanaan confirmed that a student may submit an individual request to have a specific course counted within Group B.

*R-2011-2-4 Upon motion duly moved and seconded (D. Peltier-Rivest, L. Katsanis), Council approved the curriculum changes as detailed in JMSB-2011-02A-02.*

### 12. CASA Report

Mr. Robitaille announced that Ms. Marianna Luciano is the CASA President-elect. He mentioned that there was a healthy slate of individuals this year and that voting went well. There will be a period of job shadowing over the next couple of months to ensure an easy transition.

### 13. CGSA Report

Mr. Le Guen mentioned two upcoming events, the Business Beyond Tomorrow Conference at HEC and an Oil Sands debate.

Mr. Jones-Doyle explained that he is working on operations management and creating a manual for the next executive team.

### 14. Presentation: Academic Plan (JMSB-2011-02A-03)

David Graham, Provost and Vice-President, Academic Affairs

Bradley Tucker, Director, Office of Institutional Planning

Faculty Council accepted speaking privileges for Mr. Jason Ens, Academic Policy and Planning Analyst and Mr. Tucker.

Dean Sharma welcomed the guests.

Dr. Lowy addressed Council members and mentioned that although he is pleased to be back at Concordia, he is sensitive to the circumstances that necessitated his return. He explained that a good academic environment needs to be devoid of any unrest and angst. He suggested that at times, problems can be magnified and this can be due to a communication issue. He mentioned that Concordia needs to take a hard look at

governance through an unbiased external perspective in order to ensure the university's continued success.

Dean Sharma thanked Dr. Lowy for addressing Council and introduced Dr. Graham's presentation of the academic plan.

Dr. Graham started by thanking all of the individuals who contributed to the plan. He explained that the plan in the present stage is a preliminary draft and that input from all levels of the community is required to ensure that the priorities are accurately reflected.

Mr. Jones-Doyle mentioned that, after speaking to many students, the term "powerless" seems to accurately reflect the students' perspective. Dr. Graham explained that the website has been set up in a certain way to foster communication between the various stakeholders. Students may send their comments directly through the site. As well, a series of open sessions were organized so that everyone would have a forum to discuss the plan. Articles were featured in *The Link* and *The Concordian*. However, everyone must participate in order to ensure that the plan is our plan.

Responding to a question from the floor, Dr. Graham mentioned that the degree audit system would enable students to track their progress through the portal.

Prof. Katsanis mentioned that the department chairs met to discuss the plan and that they collectively express concern regarding the core indicators exercise and request that all work on core indicators cease.

Dr. Graham explained that the core indicators were not addressed within the academic plan and mentioned that they formed part of a separate document with a separate purpose.

Prof. Katsanis also mentioned that the Marketing Department had some concerns regarding the IDEA instrument and learning assessment versus teaching assessment. Dr. Graham mentioned that by focusing on learning outcomes, the idea is that one could effectively gauge teaching effectiveness.

There was a discussion regarding the budget situation and the constraints it poses. It was mentioned that Concordia neither has competitive salaries to attract new faculty members nor the funding to offer graduate students. Dr. Graham mentioned that, unfortunately, most of this lies within the fact that Quebec institutions are underfunded as a whole. As a result, we would have to ensure we maximize the resources available to us to guarantee continued success.

15. Other business

Associate Dean Bhabra outlined changes to the graduate awards process. He also mentioned that previously there were two competition dates and this has been replaced by one competition date in February. He asked the department chairs to inform and remind faculty members about these awards. It was suggested that these should be publicized more in order to increase the awareness within the faculty.

16. Next meeting

The next meeting of Faculty Council will take place on March 11, 2011.

17. Adjournment

Upon motion duly seconded (S. Betton, M. Sharma), the meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

**Report to the JMSB Faculty Council on the January 21, 2011 BOG Meeting by Lawrence Kryzanowski:**

This was a special Closed Session meeting of the Board of Governors of Concordia University to deal with two items.

A press release of the same day stated: "Concordia University's Board of Governors has voted unanimously to appoint Dr. Frederick H. Lowy as Concordia's President on an interim basis."  
<http://now.concordia.ca/university-affairs/governance/20110121/concordia-appoints-dr-frederick-h-lowy-president-for-an-interim-period.php>

In other developments, another faculty member has been added to the Executive Committee of the Board. For committee memberships see: <http://vpexternalsecgen.concordia.ca/board-and-senate/governors/membership/>

**Report to the JMSB Faculty Council on the February 17, 2011 BOG Meeting by Lawrence Kryzanowski:**

The open session of the BOG followed its closed session.

The meeting was chaired by Vice-Chair Jonathan Wener. There was a discussion about approving the Agenda since it contained a motion dealing with Governance for which there had been no prior notice of motion. At one of the previous meetings, the BOG Chair ruled an amendment to a motion to be out of order because there had not been a notice of motion to amend the motion. Some board members argued that this time it was different. Nevertheless, the elected faculty members on the BOG did not want to impede the establishment of a committee or commission to study governance at Concordia University so the agenda was approved with the proviso that the minutes record that there was no notice of motion given previously for this motion.

The consent package of items was consented to. The agenda item "Governance issues" was the topic of frank and open discussions for much of the remainder of the meeting with the 5 elected faculty members playing a very active role in the discussion. The discussion centered around passage of the proposed motion provided near the end of my report. The motion finally passed by the BOG follows the proposed motion.

Some of the arguments advanced by the 5 elected faculty members on the BOG (one was at an international conference) include: the initiative for the establishment of a governance review committee or GRC (commission according to the approved Senate motion) originated in the Senate and should remain there; it is extremely difficult for a body to do an independent assessment of itself; it would not be helpful to ask the Senate to cooperate with the Executive Committee of the BOG since the majority of its members are officers of the BOG when the Senate and most departments (and some faculty councils) in the University have passed motions of non confidence in such; given the previous argument, it would be very difficult for the BOG to give a blank cheque to its executive committee to negotiate on behalf of the BOG; that there was an inconsistency between the previous day's letter from the Chair of the BOG to the Senate that stated that the officers of the BOG supported a GRC of two members and the motion that stated "a small number"; that the GRC should consist of three members unrelated to the University to avoid stalemate with at least one being a faculty member.

In a spirit of co-operation, the elected faculty members of the BOG together with Dr. Lowy in open forum arrived at a motion (see below) that was unanimously approved by the BOG (given abstentions by the